

THREE COUNT[©]

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Sting pins Luger, wins WCW title

Pillman captures jr. heavyweight title, Rude retains U.S. belt at SuperBrawl

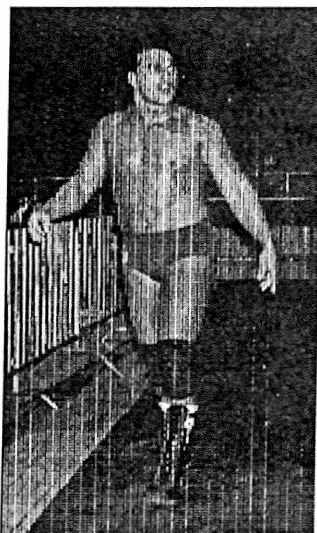
By ALEX MARVEZ
Three Count Editor

Sting became the World Championship Wrestling heavyweight champion for the second time February 29 by defeating Lex Luger in the main event of SuperBrawl II, a WCW pay-per-view event held at the Mecca in Milwaukee.

Results and analysis of the card are provided below. As is *Three Count* policy, a blow-by-blow account of the match will not be given, but finishing sequences and match highlights are. To preface, Jim Ross and Jesse Ventura handled the match commentary, while Tony Schiavone and Eric Bischoff acted as hosts. Missy Hyatt performed locker room interviews. On to the matches:

1) Brian Pillman recaptured the WCW junior heavyweight title by defeating Jushin Lyger in an early candidate for Match of the Year. Lyger, who initially received a mixed response from the live crowd, worked the match with injured ribs, but no effect of the injury was evident. Lyger was able to win the crowd over with one spectacular move after another, highlighted by a flip from the top rope onto Pillman outside the ring at the 10-minute mark. At 12:23, Pillman suplexed Lyger outside the ring and leaped with a flying body press onto Lyger on the Arena floor. The finishing sequence began at 17:30 when Lyger connected with a super-plex off the top rope and got a count of two.

Lyger then missed a headbutt off the top rope. Pillman rose, put his legs under Lyger's arms, flipped him over into a rolling reverse and bridged back for the pin at the 18:05 mark. Pillman hugged Lyger after the



Terry Taylor

Inside...

Hanlin column -- Pg 4
Florida news -- Pg 5
Rey's Lucha -- Pg 6
Letters -- Pg 7
Barry O int. -- Pg 8-9

(Continued on Page 2)

WWF front-office facing child sex abuse charges

By ALEX MARVEZ
Three Count Editor

Accusations of homosexual abuses among members of the World Wrestling Federation's front office are abounding after a February 26 column in the *New York Post* claims the promotion will be sued by a former ring boy claiming sexual harassment.

Phil Mushnick, the *Post* writer who has written about alleged anabolic steroid use within the WWF the past few months, quoted several highly placed sources that within March a lawsuit will be filed in a New York federal courthouse "alleging that male WWF administrative employees and executives sexually harassed and abused under-aged teen-age boys who were engaged as ring assistants in the mid-and-late 1980s." Mushnick also quotes sources as saying the WWF will be charged with transporting minors across state lines for the purpose of moral corruption, as well as violating child-labor laws. A follow-up story with more details appeared in Mushnick's February 28 column.

Mushnick says the story has been corroborated by another ring boy, or "gofer," who claims to also have been sexually abused while under the employ of the WWF. WWF spokesman Steve Planamenta was unavailable to the *Post*, and did not return calls to *Three Count*.

Three Count has learned the names of the reported plaintiff and corroborating source, but will withhold the names until the lawsuit has been filed.

The *Post* story was mentioned February 27 on CNBC's *The Real Story*, with former WWF announcer Jesse Ventura as guest. Ventura said he had no knowledge that the *Post* story was true. "From 1986-90, I was broadcasting," Ventura said. "I only would see the talent."

(Continued on Page 9)

Sting defeats Luger at SuperBrawl

(Continued from Page 1)

match, which I guess means he's no longer angry that his friends have no jobs. Grade: A.

2) Marcus Alexander Bagwell pinned Terry Taylor with a small package. You had to feel sorry for these two guys following Lyger and Pillman, but they made it entertaining. Much to *Arena Report* editor Ron Lemieux's dismay, the winner of the SuperBrawl II guest ring announcer contest was Barry Abrams of Syracuse University, who introduced this match. I suspect a fixed contest, as Abrams looked like the illegitimate son of WCW photographer Dennis Brent. This match was carried by Taylor, who was taunted with "Rooster" chants throughout from his days as the WWF's Red Rooster. After the match, Taylor leveled Bagwell with a five-arm and DDT, leaving the Luke Perry clone laying in the ring. Grade: C+.

3) Ron Simmons defeated Cactus Jack after catching him with a powerslam on an attempted jump off the second rope. Ventura had one of his many great lines during the show, claiming Jack reminded him of Republican presidential candidate Pat Buchanan. Physically, Simmons appears like he wants to collect the 10 percent bonus WCW executive vice president Kip Frey is offering to wrestlers for getting off anabolic steroids. This was a fun match, with Jack playing his usual pinball role with a hangman between the ropes, elbow drop off the second rope onto the arena floor and taking a spinebuster on the entrance ramp. Abdullah the Butcher came out after the match, encouraged Simmons to attack Jack. Abby then turned heel when he clobbered Simmons with his kendo stick when he turned his back. After 30 seconds of pummeling, the Junkyard Dog (who was

Three Count

Alex Marvez -- Editor/Publisher
Carol Hernandez -- Production
Paul Hanlin Jr. -- Columnist
Carlos Rey -- Lucha Libre
John Muse -- Japan

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picked up on camera in the audience earlier in the match) worked his way down from the arena seats, "knocking out" three WCW security guards in the process. Dog cleaned house and

ripped off his tuxedo shirt and jacket, revealing a slimmed down physique. JYD was over huge, but questions of his stamina and work rate remain. Still, for this one night, he was fine. Grade: B.

4) Van Hammer and Tom Zenk defeated Richard Morton and Vinnie Vegas. No shows for this match were Curtis Hughes (no idea) and Johnny B. Badd (contract dispute). While the babyfaces made their ring entrance, Ventura pointed out Zenk was a former Mr. Minnesota and got into wrestling "because we all know there ain't no money in body-building. In fact, the big guy, Vinnie, knows there's no money in body-building." This match was never horrible, even when Hammer and Vegas squared off. Zenk pinned Morton after ducking a charge into the turnbuckle and turning it into a rolling reverse. Grade: C.

At this point came an ad for the WCW Japan Supershow II, which will be aired on various dates the first few weeks of March, depending on individual cable companies. The matches advertised were The Steiners vs. Sting-The Great Muta and the return of Dusty Rhodes (which will be a tag-team bout with Dusty and Dustin Rhodes against Masa Saito and Kim Duk (Tiger Chung Lee)). A complete report of the show and an analysis by John Muse will appear in the March 17 double issue of *Three Count*.

5) Barry Windham and Dustin Rhodes defeated Larry Zbyszko and Steve Austin when Windham pinned Zbyszko after a clothesline off the top rope. This match saw the heels dominate throughout. First, Windham was worked over, taking two fantastic bumps over the top rope before tagging Rhodes. He was then worked over, and took spinning bumps on three Austin clotheslines. The finishing move was set-up when Zbyszko pushed Windham off on a super-plex attempt, but was in turn pushed off the top turnbuckle by Rhodes. Grade: A-.

Following this match, Hyatt was shown attempting to gain an interview with Ricky Steamboat. Hyatt was turned down by the ninja standing in front of Steamboat's locker room door. Madusa then came in the locker room and attempted the same thing, but was turned down. The Ninja chased after Madusa after she slapped him, and the camera cut away.

6) Arn Anderson and Bobby Eaton retained the WCW tag-team titles by defeating Rick-Scott Steiner via disqualification. Paul E. Dangerously, who was banned from ringside in the Steamboat-Rick Rude match, was also banned in this match "by order of Frey." Another match filled with great moves, including a tilt-a-whirl slam by Scott on Eaton on the ramp, Scott clotheslining

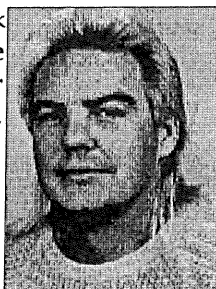
Eaton off the second rope while Eaton was on Rick's shoulders and Rick bulldogging Eaton off the top rope. Eaton got to show some offense also, but at his body's expense, administering a rocket launcher onto Scott on the ramp. The finish came when Madusa handed Anderson some dreaded white powder, which he threw in Rick's face. While stumbling blindly, Rick accidentally belly-to-belly suplexed referee **Pee Wee Anderson**. Scott then administered a power bomb and frankensteiner onto Eaton for the pin, which was counted by **Mike Atkins**, who entered the ring because of Anderson's predicament. After the Steiners were announced as new champions, P.W. Anderson regained his senses enough to reverse the decision, giving the Dangerous Alliance the decision via disqualification. **Grade: A-** (A for the work; B for the Dusty Rhodes finish, which is old, unbelievable and cheap).

7) **Rick Rude** defeated Steamboat to retain the U.S. strap. This was a much slower match than the previous ones, but such pacing was a good idea, since the Mecca crowd had seen more high spots in one night than on a month of WWF shows. Steamboat worked over Rude's left arm early, which he sold throughout the match, including after a clothesline and a pose. Ventura said there's always time to pose in a match, and Ross reminded him there is no money in body-building. Steamboat crotched Rude on the top rope and administered a great super-plex near the end, getting a two count. Steamboat then chopped Rude off the top rope and went for another as the coup de grace. As Steamboat approached the turnbuckle, the Ninja jumped on the ring apron and hit him twice with a portable phone. The Ninja, obviously Dangerously, then waddled to the dressing room, allowing Rude to get the pin. After the match, Missy was seen opening the door to Dangerously's dressing room, revealing Dangerously in a ninja costume. **Grade: B+.**

8) **Sting** defeated **Luger** for the title. Luger looked physically enormous, prompting Ventura to say, "Luger has bulked up a lot in the last thirty days." Ross asked, "How do you bulk up that much in 30 days?" Jesse replied, "Probably rest." Luger's stamina suffered because of the added bulk, though, and he appeared extremely unhealthy. Finish saw Sting (who sold virtually the whole match, which makes no sense considering Luger is going to **Vince McMahon's World Bodybuilding Federation**) kick out of a cover after a Luger piledriver and get thrown out of the ring. **Harley Race**, Luger's adviser, attempted piledriving Sting outside the ring, but Sting reversed it into a backdrop. Sting then climbed to the top rope and administered a flying body press for the victory. The fans went ga-ga at the finish, and Sting came back for a curtain call. **Grade: B-**

Notes: On a 10-point scale, this show rates a 9.

The work rate was incredible, as was the match quality. But, a change of pace was needed from the good maneuvers so some of them could get over. Rude and Steamboat did not draw the reaction it could have because of the match it followed. An intermission would be a good idea, or scheduling a Cactus Jack type brawl ... The show



Barry Windham

would have rated a 10 had the angles preceding it been good. But the pre-match hype for almost every match-up was ineffective. The ninja gimmick lost the effectiveness it could have had because it only appeared on TBS for a few weeks ... WCW's Saturday TBS show was outstanding, with Ventura and Ross running down the card and angles leading to the matches. I don't have a buy rate yet, but I bet the show gained buys solely on the class presentation on the show ... As an experiment, this card was shown via closed-

circuit television to the Gainesville (Ga.) Mountain Center. The satellite hook-up cost \$1,500, and tickets were priced at \$10 for adults and \$5 for children in a 400-seat exhibition hall at the Center. If the experiment is successful, WCW may offer pay-per-view shows on closed-circuit in more smaller Georgia cities. WCW should be careful, though, because such a plan may prove to diminish attendance at Georgia spot shows ... Bischoff was actually bearable on this PPV, and didn't seem like he wanted to sell any used cars... Badd may be gone from WCW because he would not agree to a new contract. More information on the matter will be available next week.

Sheet Spotlight

Here's a look at the top stories of some of the other wrestling newsletters, with subscription information:

- **Dave Meltzer's Wrestling Observer Newsletter** (March 2): Report on the LPWA pay-per-view show; Analysis of WCW's new steroid policy; Updated news from Japan, Mexico, USWA, WWF and WCW. *Weekly; \$1.50 an issue. P.O. Box 1228, Campbell CA 95009-1228.*

- **Wade Keller's Pro Wrestling Torch** (February 27): Run down of the LPWA pay-per-view show; **Bruce Mitchell's** analysis on how to turn WCW around; Live match reports and territorial news. *Weekly; \$1.25 an issue. P.O. Box 201844, Minneapolis MN 55420.*

- **Ron Lemieux's Arena Report** (February 24): Live reports on WWF shows Feb. 15 in Orlando and Feb. 17 in Tampa; "Mad Dog" **Buzz Sawyer** obituary by **Jeff Bowdren**; Correspondent live reports and ring ramblings. *Bi-weekly; \$1 an issue. P.O. Box 952547, Lake Mary FL 32795-2547.*

- **Mike Sawyer's Legdrop** (February 25): The continuing transcript of the on-air battle between **KLAV's Bill Kunkel** and **WFAN's Rich Mancuso**; News tidbits from the WWF and WCW. *Bi-weekly; \$1 an issue. 831 Pasadena Ave., Niagara Falls, NY 14304.*

SuperBrawl II a "rippling" show

Random thoughts as the long road back for World Championship Wrestling winds through Milwaukee's Mecca and Superbrawl II.

6:20 p.m., 40 minutes away: The TBS preview for the PPV is airing behind me as I'm pecking away on the Packard Bell computer for this column. Thankfully, Jim Ross and Jesse Ventura are together as they offer a rundown of the matches for the evening; maybe they will team up together on

Paul Hanlin Jr.

the show. A dozen things are running through my mind -- the Dangerous Alliance just won the tag belts 32 days ago. It would be a mistake to switch them so quickly to the Steiners... It would make sense for Ricky Steamboat to win the U.S. belt, so Rick Rude can be freed for world title shots with Sting... Thank God they cut the card from 11 matches to 8... Will they play up the Japan-bashing when Brian Pillman and Jushin Lyger kick off the evening's festivities? So far they haven't, but the evening isn't even an infant, let alone young.

6:30 p.m.: I sense this could finally be the night WCW begins to turn it around. A golden opportunity is there. But will enough people see it, just coming off of the Doctor J- Kareem Abdul Jabaar whatever-that-was the night before, which roped the lion's share of publicity (and TV time on my cable system) all week long? I just had the most bizarre thought as Steamboat's interview was on TBS. With Paul E. Dangerously officially banned from ringside for this match, what if the Ninja watching Steamboat's back turns on him, causing a screw-job pinfall, and the guy under the Ninja outfit is... well, come to think of it, who says it has to be a man? It could even be a recently married member of the wrestling fraternity.

6:39 p.m.: Tempted as I am, I think I'll pass up WCW's most generous offer of \$9.95 for its upcoming Japan Supershow II pay-per-view. Wouldn't it have been better if the January 4 Tokyo Dome show was tape delayed and broadcast on Jan. 19, say at around 4 p.m. Eastern? On TBS?

6:45 p.m.: The minutes tick away and the anticipation grows here. Finally, we're not talking about steroids, drugs, sexual perversion, the death knell of the mania (Hulk-a and Vince-a). Finally, we're going to get down to some wrestling for a change. It may take a while to get used to seeing action in the ring instead of out of it.

9:54 p.m.: Paul E.'s turning Japanese, I really think so, think so, think so...

Right church and right pew on that one. Overall, a good showing by *Three Count's* resident bookie; a Dusty finish; two run-ins (Okay, two walk-ins); the phone used in the finish of a Dangerous Alliance match (those of you who bet on it not being used in any of their matches must be pulling your hair out right now); two no-shows (Johnny B. Badd, Mr. Hughes). I made seven of eight picks correctly, but I'd have gladly traded the one I messed up on (Steamboat-Rude) for a different result of the opener. Shame on you Milwaukeeans for chanting "USA, USA" during a four-star plus match. And we wonder why: 1) the Japanese have such a low opinion of us; 2) the Ugly American image didn't go the way of the Cold War? It was embarrassing to see that display by fans who should have known better.

I didn't see the first ten minutes of the show, as there was a glitch in my cable system's transmission of it. Was it me, or was the crowd hot for the early part of the show and sat on its hands for the last two-thirds of it? It could have been an example of silent heat (where fans are so involved in the action that they don't cheer or boo, last seen in Japan's Universal Wrestling Federation), but who knows? Worst match was Vinnie Vegas-Richard Morton vs. Tom Zenk-Van Hammer. Why is the Junkyard Dog back? Best was Pillman vs. Lyger. It's nice to know fatherhood hasn't changed Cactus Jack any. Will we be seeing in about one score (as opposed to Abe Lincoln's four) Cactus Jr. take "like father like son" to, and over, the extreme? I waited with bated breath for Eddie Gilbert's current vs. Eddie's ex in the corridor, but no such luck. Maybe in Jacksonville on May 17 or in Baltimore in July. Missy Hyatt did give away the Steamboat-Rude finish a bit when she did her thing before the U.S. title match. They also blew it with Rude winning. This was long match night, which took a trifle getting used to, especially in the Barry Windham-Dustin Rhodes tag-team match. Looks to me like two challengers for a world tag title didn't want to do a clean job tonight. Sting vs. Lex Luger was okay, but two minutes before the first lock-up? Maybe they were prepping Luger for his WWF run, assuming there's a Whiff to go to when he gets there. Well, Lex, there's always the World Bodybuilding Federation.

Superbrawl II gets a B+, a ripple in the ocean WCW has to cross before it can call itself major league. It could have been better, but it was worth the extra fin it cost to buy it.



Valentine-Hercules headlines ICWA show

Former World Wrestling Federation stars **Greg Valentine** and **Hercules** headlined a February 27 International Championship Wrestling Association show before a crowd of 220 at the Sportatorium in Tampa.

Hercules and Valentine, both of whom were recently released from WWF contracts, are two of the latest "big name" stars the ICWA has recently used. Also making appearances on the card were **Danny Spivey** and **Jim Neidhart**, who was fired from the WWF two weeks ago for "unprofessional conduct."

The match lasted 8:29, with interference by "**Gigolo**" **Jim Backlund** causing



ALEX MARVEZ

Hercules to be disqualified. Other bouts included Backlund defeating the **Coconut Man** via disqualification when "**Downtown**" **Denny Brown** interfered on behalf of Backlund, **Hurricane Walker** defeated **Tex Salinger** via disqualification in 7:32, Spivey power-bombed and pinned **Tommy Starr** in 2:42 and **Bambi** rolled-up **Peggy Lee Leather** in 7:52.

Neidhart was introduced at the show, and will wrestle on the group's February 5 show at the Sportatorium. Spivey came out during the Salinger-Walker match and tripped Walker, but Salinger did not want the help and assisted Walker from the ring.

More ICWA news: The ICWA's television debut was delayed until early April because of a lack of commercial advertising sales. The ICWA was scheduled to debut on television March 7 on Channel 38 in Tampa.

• Upcoming shows are scheduled for every Thursday night during March at the Sportatorium and March 7 in Land O' Lakes.

LMLW: **Howard Brody's** Ladies Major League Wrestling two-day tour concluded with mixed results. The February 29 show in Immokalee was a success, drawing 732 fans. The undercard saw **A.J. Watson** bulldog and pin **Big Bad Mama** (**Brenda Lee**); **Leather** make **Allison Royal** submit to the camel clutch; **Luna Vachon** defeated **Malliah Hosaka** when Luna's manager, **Lastat**, power bombed Hosaka behind the referee's back (There was tremendous heat for this match, with fans throwing shoes at Vachon; Lastat was former Black Heart **Dave Heath** debuting with his new gimmick -- a rock 'n roll-vampire-type character); **Bambi** and **Pink Cadillac** wrestled to double countout for the LMLW title; **Penelope Paradise** (who just celebrated a birthday, the number I can't say) lost via reversed decision to **Wendi Richter**. **Sir Oliver Humperdink** threw a silver dollar to **Penelope** behind the referee's back, which she loaded in her glove to promptly knock the wind out of Richter with a bolo punch. But when the referee raised **Penelope's** hand, the gimmick fell from the glove, prompting the reversal. The main event was a 10-woman battle royal, with the final four participants remaining as **Cadillac**, **Bambi**, **Vachon** and **Richter**. **Vachon** and **Richter** eliminated each other and

brawled back to dressing room. **Humperdink** then came out and threw powder in the face of the referee, who was standing on the arena floor. **Humperdink** jumped to the ring apron and grabbed **Bambi** from behind, but **Cadillac's** attempted forearm smash hit him and sent him sprawling. **Bambi** then threw **Cadillac** over the top rope. However, the referee was still blinded, allowing **Cadillac** to roll back in, grab **Bambi** by the back of the neck and throw her over. The referee, with the help of **Humperdink**, then revives and awards **Cadillac** the bout, because she was the only one remaining in the ring. **Humperdink** conducted a live "House of **Humperdink**" earlier in the show, and was given a complete babyface reaction. He called out **Bambi** and out her over (even though he kept calling her the LPWA champion by accident). But in the middle of the interview, **Humperdink** turned heel, bringing out **Cadillac** and announcing she was his new protege and would win the title.

LMLW's March 1 show at Port St. Lucie High School wasn't as successful, with a paid attendance of 325 fans. Even more importantly, **Brody** and the high school got into a disagreement over the pay-off (this was a guaranteed show), with **Brody** threatening legal action. More on that part of the story next week. The undercard saw **Susan Green** defeat **Watson**; **Paradise** d. **Royal** with the same glove gimmick, except when the dollar fell out, **Paradise** said a fan at ringside threw it in, and then she walked away; In what began as a battle of babyfaces, **Candi Divine** defeated **Hosaka** after turning heel in the middle of the bout. The finish saw **Hosaka** accidentally enziguri the referee. When she went to check on his well-being, **Divine** bopped her on top of the head with a belt and got the pinfall. **Divine** tried shaking **Hosaka's** hand after the match, but was droppicked out of the ring.

The next match was scheduled as a handicap match between two disc jockeys at WZZR-FM (92.7) against **Cadillac**. **Green** came out and began intimidating the guys, snap maring one of them. **Cadillac** came out and made the save for the disc jockeys, and let them act as her manager after they both kissed her boots. **Cadillac** then squashed **B.J. Calhoun** and **White Bear** in a handicap match. **Cadillac** knocked the referee down during an airplane spin and covered both girls, allowing one of the disc jockeys to count the pin. After the match, **Green** attacked **Cadillac** from behind and left her laying.

Next came a House of **Humperdink** with **Bambi** and **Richter** yelling at **Judy Martin** and **Lelanal Kai** (a.k.a. **The Glamour Girls**), with **Richter** calling them the "Golden Girls." **Miss Liberty** (**Green** under a hood; she was a substitute for **Rockin' Robin**, who was stranded in Fort Lauderdale and missed the show) defeated **Leather**, and in the main event, **Kai** and **Martin** became the inaugural LMLW tag-team champions by defeating **Bambi** and **Richter** in a two-of-three fall bout. **Richter** lost the first fall after a double suplex, but evened the match in the second fall by pinning **Martin** with a cross-body block off the second rope. The third fall saw two simultaneous small packages, with **Richter** on top of **Martin** and **Bambi** on top of **Kai**. **Humperdink** then rolled **Kai** on top as the referee counted a double pin. Since **Kai** and **Bambi** were the legal

(Continued on Page 10)

Conan-Aguayo bury hatchet after Mexican dream match in EMMML

Once again, another outstanding group of matches appeared on Galavision's Lucha Libre show March 1. A rundown of the EMMML show, which occurred February 21 at Arena Mexico in Mexico City:

1) **Super Astro-El Feloso-Blue Demon Jr.** (the *technicos*, or babyfaces) defeated **Los Destructores (Vulcano-Roco Valiente-Tony Arce)** in a two-of-three-fall match. The first fall was well-paced, with both teams displaying a wide variety of holds and showing respect for one another by not using brawling tactics. No word yet on the identity of Feloso, but he was making his debut and looked good. Demon Jr. pinned Vulcano with a suplex and Feloso pinned Arce after a superkick, leaving Valiente to fend for himself. He didn't even bother, and

Carlos Rey Reporte de Lucha Libre

surrendered the fall to the *technicos*. The *rudos* came back quickly to win the second fall, scoring pinfalls on all three *technicos*. Demon got the worst of this fall, as Los Destructores administered *una desnucadora* (power bomb), with Demon positioned on the top rope, to gain the pin. The *rudos* also completely dominated the third fall until Astro made an incredible backward flip onto Arce outside the ring, allowing Feloso to work over Valiente and make him submit to an abdominal stretch-type maneuver while the *rudo* was on his knees. Astro's dive is a must-see move.

2) Another *technico* victory, with **Ultimate Dragon** (Japanese superstar Yoshihiro Asai)-**Apolo Dantes-Kato Kung Lee** defeating **Javier Cruz-Bestia Salvaje-Blue Panther** in two-of-three falls. The first fall began with a good exchange of holds, as Dragon paired with Salvaje, and then old foes Dantes and Cruz got together for some good action. What didn't look good was Panther going against Lee, because Panther had to hold back to lose the fall to him. Also, it seems Lee has been wrestling since the art of karate was developed, so he's slow to begin with. Dragon suplexed Salvaje for another pin, while Cruz decided not to even enter the ring and concede the fall. The *rudos* came back in strong fashion, with Salvaje pinning Dragon in the middle of the ring after a splash off the top rope and the other *technicos* unable to answer the bell. The third fall was also hot, with the *rudos* dominating until the *technicos* came back with a double pin – Lee on Salvaje and Dantes on

Panther. Another must-see move – Dragon's jump through the middle rope onto Salvaje, who was well away from the ring.

3) This saw all hell break loose from the onset, which can often be expected between two *rudo* teams, as **Los Infernales (MS-1-Pirata Morgan-Satanico)** defeated **Los Intocables (Jacque Mate-Pierroth Jr.-Masakre)** in two falls. The first fall was all hard-core brawling, as all three Infernales made Masakre submit by kicking him repeatedly. Los Intocables came back in the second fall, but to no avail. Both Pierroth and Mate had their masks ripped during the masks, which should signal an automatic disqualification, but the referees did not award them the fall. Masakre made a solo challenge to Morgan for a hair vs. hair match on next week's show, but Morgan wouldn't accept. He might be forced to, though, by the wrestling commission (there is a legitimate commission in Mexico, as well as a wrestlers union for all promotions, but obviously this is a work).

4) This was a tag-team street fight match between **Conan** (*technico*) and **Sangre Chicana** (*rudo*) against **Pero Aguayo** (*rudo*) and **Cien Caras** (*rudo*). Before going into details, I want to explain the history between these wrestlers. About 10 years ago, there was a major feud in EMMML between Chicana and Aguayo, with Chicana as a babyface. Aguayo and Chicana are mortal enemies, as are Aguayo and Caras. Aguayo is also responsible for Conan losing his mask last March in a match. Conan and Caras are also enemies. Get the picture? I love these Mexican dream matches!

The first fall had Chicana and Conan double team argue Aguayo and hit him with a double dropkick, allowing Conan to gain the pinfall. Aguayo pinned Conan in the second fall after he missed a flying press off the top rope. The third fall saw the inevitable happen, as Caras turned on Aguayo, with Chicana joining in to double team. When Conan came in, Chicana asked him to leave, which he did. However, the fans began screaming for him to return and save Aguayo, which he did. Afterward, both men embraced, which I never thought I would see these two do! A great bout.

*Carlos Rey has watched lucha libre for more than 10 years, and cannot get enough of the style. He not only writes a weekly column for **Three Count.**, but, in addition, has tapes of Galavision shows available. Write to him at 996 West 45th Place, Hialeah FL 33012 for more information. He is hoping to begin receiving tapes of the UWA by the end of March. Look for more details soon.*

Letters to the Editor

Dear Alex,

I share the disgust and suspicion (as do many others) that the story we have been given by Joel Goodhart regarding the cancellation of his January 25 show in Philadelphia was incomplete at best, and a cover-up at worst. You and other newsletter writers and readers have been properly campaigning for holding promoters responsible for many deceptive practices, such as advertising wrestlers they know will not appear, let alone advertising a show and taking ticket money three months in advance and cancelling the show a week before it was to go on and disappearing when loyal fans go for refunds. I only lost \$25, but some, like Debbie McWilliams, lost \$140 for front row seats for Goodhart's four big 1992 shows, while others lost money for hotel and plane reservations.



Buddy Rodgers

Was this a plan to get revenue in for a non-existent show to pay off past debts or just a consequence of bad management and the recession? The swiftness with which this was done and the secrecy surrounding it, along with Goodhart's disconnection of his phone and refusal to be held accountable publicly by his loyal fans, only arouses suspicions. I am upset the sheets, which were very good to him and usually have the fans' interest at heart, did not make more of a ruckus and call for a public accounting, if not a public investigation. Certainly, this is more serious than advertising Sid Vicious when he won't show up. If Goodhart was merely the victim of circumstance or hard times, fans deserve to know. We're experienced wrestling fans, so if it walks like a work and talks like a work, well... That someone like Buddy Rodgers can say that in his 50+ years in wrestling he has never seen anything like this is quite a testament to the gravity of the situation. If Goodhart had a problem, whatever the problem, as various rumors abound, we, too, can understand and forgive, if need be. But not in this way.

-- Eddie Goldman, New York City

AM: As has been documented in other newsletters, refunds for Goodhart's January 25 show are available from the Pennsylvania state athletic commission. Enclose a xerox copy of the purchased ticket in a letter to Gregory Sirb at 611A Transportation Blvd., Harrisburg PA 17120. Goodhart was forced to place a \$10,000 bond for the show, and refunds will be given as long as that money remains. The advance was \$14,000, so some people will be left out in the snow.

I tried reaching Goodhart, but he refused to return my phone calls. I agree, though, that more should have been done. I find it interesting *The Philadelphia Enquirer* never wrote about the story. Unfortunately, the Goodhart situation hurts the die-hard fan the most, because they were the ones who stuck with Goodhart until the end. I believe the Goodhart situation is just another reason why wrestling needs a kind of regulation, whether it be on a state or national basis.

Dear Alex,

Troop County is 80 miles from Atlanta. With Tommy Rich having been arrested on marijuana possession charges there, is that why WCW checked Troop County police records in regards to Curtis Hughes?

-- Jim Russell, Orlando

AM: I am unsure whether WCW checked with Troop County officials on whether Hughes was arrested on crack cocaine possession charges -- an incident proved to be untrue. I checked with Troop County police because of Rich's arrest, their frequent drug arrests and because Tom Zenk was arrested by Troop County police on six felony counts of steroid possession last September. Zenk was rumored to have been arrested in Atlanta, but calls to Atlanta and Fulton County police stations proved fruitless. Troop County is the next county west from Fulton.

Dear Alex,

I really want to thank Carlos Rey for starting his "Reporte de Lucha Libre" column with a quick lesson on what actually goes on in the Mexican version of the sport. I'd be interested to learn how American workers train or learn the ropes Lucha Libre-wise, so they won't look like fools when they wrestle south of the border.

-- Jeff Mullins, San Jose

AM: Norman Smiley, who wrestles as Black Magic in the EMLL group, told me many wrestlers don't make any adjustments when working the Lucha style. Of course, he can work from either side of the body, which is a distinct advantage (American wrestlers apply holds and throw opponents into the ropes from the left side; Mexican wrestlers use both, but mostly the right side). American wrestlers usually don't stay too long in the ring and work choreographed spots with the Mexicans so they don't look too out of place. Much of the lucha style is also brawling. Smiley, for example, was told to just wrestle his "usual" style of amateur holds and submission moves. Canadian Vampire, the EMLL's most popular foreign wrestler, can barely wrestle U.S. style, let alone lucha.

Spotlight on: Barry Orton

"Doing the Job" will not only be the title of Barry Orton's autobiography, it best describes his life as a wrestler in the World Wrestling Federation. Orton, 33, spent much of his 15-year career as a WWF preliminary wrestler named Barry O, a role most experts agree was not appropriate considering his talent level.

Orton says he was not given a push because he would not succumb to homosexual advancements by members of the WWF's front office. His claims, which originally aired on Mike Tenay's nationally syndicated Wrestling Insiders radio show, have generated media attention from around the country, especially in light of similar statements about homosexual harassment in the WWF front office by former WWF stars "Superstar" Billy Graham and "Dr. D" David Shults, and a New York Post story that a former WWF ring boy will file a lawsuit this month in a New York federal courthouse for sexual abuse by some of the group's front office personnel.

*Orton, the brother of former WWF star Bob Orton, is now out of the wrestling business, and serves as a computer consultant in Las Vegas. The following is a summary of the reaction to his claims February 15 on Tenay's show, which were recounted in Issue 22 of **Three Count**.*

AM: Is the reaction you received in response to your appearance on Mike Tenay's show surprising?

BO: Yeah, as a matter of fact it is. It set me back a little back. I really wasn't expecting anything, at least not like this anyway. But that's OK. It doesn't bother me, especially if it will help me sell my book.

AM: Steve Planamenta of the WWF said the only reason you're making these statements is because you're trying to sell a book. How do you respond to that?

BO: What does anyone expect them to say. Do you think anyone there would say, "Yeah, he's telling the truth." Look at the Iran-Contra hearings. How many people said they were guilty? They were all lying their asses off. People try to discredit those who come forward, just like with Anita Hill. Instead of talking about the issues, they spent three days trying to figure out why did it take so much time for her to come forward. They tried to persecute her with silly bullshit, deferring the attention off of what's really going on and the way things are. Wake up America, for anyone that believes in the judicial system or in business corporations. It should tell you something that they're not saying it's not true. They didn't deny shit. They just said I was trying to sell a book. I think that speaks for itself.

I'm a little irritated. I don't know why I have to be the one to figure these things out. I don't know why people are so ignorant. Are people that stupid they believe politicians? I can't understand how everyone is so stupid. I've always second guessed what I've seen. I was saying for five years before Jim and Tami Baker fell that they were full of shit. My mother-in-law looked at me like I was the anti-Christ.

AM: Do you think this situation is going to turn into a media circus?

BO: It seems it like might? I did an interview today (March 1) and someone made a comment that this thing might bring Titan down, and I said, "You know, I'm not trying to bring anybody down." That's true, even though (WWF owner) Vince McMahon ruined a lot of

lives and put people down by eating up their territories. I didn't ever meet a promoter who wasn't an articulate con artist concerned just about himself, and who regarded wrestlers as pieces of meat to put money in their bank accounts. I never met one who was really concerned with who got injured or what happens when its time for retirement. I never met a promoter that really cares. They may bullshit to you to get what they want out of you. McMahon, for instance, went into every corner of the world and intentionally and maliciously, with no absence of arrogance present, either, took over every territory and all those people's life blood. He put dozens of promoters out of business. If someone can do something like that and be angry at me for what I'm doing, its hypocrisy at its finest.

I'd like to see the business get cleaned up. I'd like to see and end to the political bullshit and sexual harassment, and see people get recognition and advancement for their talent and ability to perform the art of wrestling, not because they're the biggest guy on the block. Once in a while, that criteria is OK if you're going to sell tickets. But for the most part, they've taken athletes who are good performers and psychologically talented, like myself, and use us to make people think these muscle-heads without any training knew what they were doing. It's a travesty when they take guys who put so much of their lives into becoming pro wrestlers to do that. It's like being a musician or an actor on Broadway or an ice skater in competition. Basically, it's the performance and reaction by the crowd that drives people. The money's good, but people don't say, "Yeah it was a good show. I made \$25,000 for this performance."

AM: Being used to putting over other guys less talented than you is what happened during your WWF stay, isn't it?

BO: I got held down. I would go out and have a good match, and they would tell me to hold down my performance, because the jerk-offs on top, the over-sized freakazoids, couldn't do it. I would go out and within

five minutes I had people ready to jump over the balcony to kill me. Instead of saying I was a hell of a performer, that maybe I ought to be given consideration for a push, they make me get big fat pieces of shit over with 80-inch biceps. I'm irritated because people that sell their soul get the push or are taken care of. Like Steve Lombardi, who has been in the WWF since it started. He still doesn't have that much of a clue on how to have a match, and he is still taken care of. Even after he drugged a girl and raped her. But Titan's lawyers hushed that up. It's all going to be in my book. This is a business where there's plenty of stuff to say.

AM: Did you decide to go public with your story because "Superstar" Billy Graham and David Shults did?

BO: To be honest with you, I've thought about writing a book several times during the past several years. It's always something that has been on the back of my mind. When I did Mike Tenay's radio show, the whole thing kind-of just happened. I told Mike that in the book, I talk about the sexual stuff that goes on there. Again, I want to reiterate that if you want to go ahead and sleep with cockroaches, I don't care. But I don't ever want anyone coming to me saying that if I would have slept with this cockroach, I would have a better shot at advancement in my career. Or I would be in a clique, or they'll like me better or they'll smile at me more. I don't want people to tell me how to live my life. If someone is a homosexual, that's fine. I wish them the best of luck. But don't come to me and say I'd better be one or else I'm not with it, because I'm going to hate you.

I told Mike I was going to write this stuff, and he took it upon himself to lead me into it. I don't care. The WWF is not doing anything for me. I admit if I was

working with the WWF and making \$200,000-\$300,000 a year, I wouldn't write the book -- yet -- or be saying these things. Maybe then, it's destiny that someone has the balls to actually come out with this stuff. Most retired wrestlers won't do that. Even after they've been squeezed out of the business and left financially in ruins, they're still always thinking, "Maybe I'll get my shot to go back."

Protecting the business is also so drilled into everyone's head that you don't have a lot come forward. I was aware of Superstar talking, but unaware of Shults. I found out during that radio show. It was kind of a surprise, to be honest with you. Just like with that lawsuit in New York. I had no idea or knowledge of it at all. I didn't come out because others did. Maybe there is some truth to this fate stuff, and a secret or mystical force somewhere out there has pre-ordained all this shit to happen at the same time. I wasn't aware of any group thing with anybody.

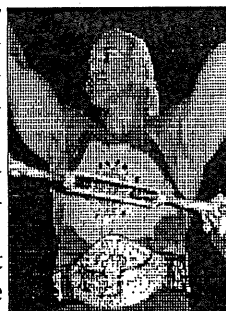
The media sought me.

AM: Who have you spoken to on the homosexuality subject?

BO: *Now It Can Be Told* (a television tabloid show), *The Pittsburgh Post-Gazette*, *Los Angeles Times*, *San Diego Tribune* and Dr. Mike Lano (for the *Canvas Cavity* public access cable show).

AM: So, is it safe to say there's no chance for a Barry O comeback in the near future?

BO: I don't think right now would be a real positive time for me to comeback. I've pretty much given in to the fact I will never be part of a political icon. I'll never be in the clique. I'm just doing my computer business and concentrating on the book. Quite a bit is done. It's just a matter of getting everything edited and arranged at this point.



Billy Graham

WWF hit with sex abuse charges

(Continued from Page 1)

Now It Can be Told, a television tabloid show, contacted *Three Count* and others in the wrestling business for information on the story for a report planned to air by mid-March. ABC's *20/20* has a story concerning steroid accusations in the WWF scheduled to run March 13, while the *Los Angeles Times* and *San Diego Tribune* have investigative WWF stories scheduled to run in mid-March as well. *The Star*, a newstand tabloid, is also said to be pursuing the ex-ring boys claims of homosexual abuse.

Mushnick wrote the allegations of sexual abuse within the WWF were given credibility by an interview with former WWF star David Shults in a February edition of the *Pro Wrestling Torch* newsletter.

"We're talking about some of the top executive's sexual habits, their sexual preferences, sexual abuse and harassment," Shults said.

Former WWF champion Billy Graham and long-time WWF preliminary wrestler Barry Orton also claimed the WWF sexually harassed some male employees for sexual favors, with those that succumbed receiving pushes.

The February 24 issue of *Arena Report* newsletter also features a report of suspicious behavior from WWF front-office employee Pat Patterson, who Graham and Orton claim has sexually discriminated against wrestlers who did not agree to homosexual advances. "I was sitting right in the aisle about four rows up from the dressing room, so I observed Pat when he was watching angles or whatever," wrote *Report* editor Ron Lemieux. "He winked numerous times at the 15-year-old ring boy How come when Shawn Michaels and Sherri came back to the dressing room after a match, he was checking out Shawn's ass and not Sherri's? Just wondering about the actions of the Number Two man in the promotion."

Next issue: Yes, your faithful editor has grown weary and will be taking a week off from printing to catch up on studies during spring break. But never fear. Not only have I gotten the mug shot sizes under control (with help from my girlfriend, Carol), but a 16-18 page double-issue of *Three Count* will be published March 17. In it will be all the breaking news about the World Wrestling Federation's problems with homosexuality and anabolic steroid accusations, a review of the WCW Japan Supershow II and analysis by columnist **John Muse**, excerpts from an interview **Ric Carter** of WrestleTalk radio (KLAV) in Las Vegas had March 1 with former grappler **Jim Wilson** (who has claimed sexual discrimination in wrestling for years) and much more. A special thanks to **Art Peluso** for documentation helpful in writing the front-page WWF story, to **Washti Bajnath** for WWF results from West Palm Beach in last week's issue, and to **Carter, Dan Reilly** of Wrestle Radio (WNNZ in Springfield, MA) and **Mike Tenay** of Wrestling Insiders for having me on as a guest. One subscription note. If your resubscription notice comes in a week or two late, please indicate whether you want any missing issues sent to you off the renewal. Thanks once again for subscribing, and see ya' in two weeks.

Sunshine State News

(Continued from Page 5)

wrestlers in the ring, the Glamour Girls won the match.

WCW: The complete line-up for the group's April 5 show in Jacksonville (their next Florida appearance): **Sting** vs. **Big Van Vader**, **Rick-Scott Steiner** vs. **Arn Anderson-Bobby Eaton**, **Ricky Steamboat** vs. **Rick Rude**, **Greg Valentine-Terry Taylor** vs. **Marcus Alexander Bagwell-Tom Zenk**, **Ron Simmons** vs. **Cactus Jack**, **Brian Pillman** vs. **Johnny B. Badd** and a bunkhouse match with **Barry Windham-Dustin Rhodes** vs. **Larry Zbyszko-Steve Austin**. Tickets for the May 17 **Wrestle War '92** pay-per-view show go on sale at intermission of this show.

• **WCW's** only other scheduled Florida appearances are April 30 at the West Palm Beach Fairgrounds and May 1 at St. Petersburg's Bayfront Center.

IWF: **BlackJack Mulligan** defeated **Mondo Clean** February 27 to win the IWF title at the Central Florida Fairgrounds. Clean, the group's first world champion since the group began promoting in July, has reportedly left the group. Mulligan, who is scheduled to begin work at a car dealership in Alabama by the end of March, is slated to drop the title in a few weeks to **The Stomper**.

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P.O.Box 12795
Gainesville, FL 32604-0795